REMARKS

The amendments further clarify the currently claimed subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added.

The terminology "transformed or transfected" was used in the claims to identify a cell's status as a non-naturally occurring organism. This term was used because that was the language used in the specification. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner make of record his decision that the term "isolated" is a commonly used term to likewise identify the cells as non-naturally occurring organisms. Alternatively, Applicants respectfully submit the term "transformed or transfected" should be acceptable as denoting the same information.

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the amendments, Applicants respectfully request consideration of present claims. Applicants' representative would appreciate the opportunity to talk with the Examiner, in person or by telephone, to discuss any remaining questions and facilitate the prosecution and allowance of the application or to place the case in better form for appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel R. Curry

Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 32,727

Jaid R. Cry

Phone: (805) 447-8102 Date: November 18, 1999

Please send all future correspondence to:

U.S. Patent Operations/DRC
Dept. 430, M/S 27-4-A
AMGEN INC.
One Amgen Center Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91320-1789